

ONLY FOR RECIPIENTS OF aTIV

(ADJUVANTED TRIVALENT INFLUENZA VACCINE)

“Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent infection and severe outcomes caused by influenza viruses.”

– WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, 2018

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO GET VACCINATED AGAINST THE FLU?

Flu-related illness is a major problem, particularly for people aged over 65 years, and can lead to complications, hospitalisation, or even death. From 2014 to 2019, an average of up to 17,000 annual deaths (between 1,692 and 28,330) in England were attributed to flu. If you have an underlying health condition (such as chronic heart, kidney, liver, or respiratory disease), the flu may make your condition worse.

As the flu virus changes every year, it is important to get vaccinated every winter.

WHAT IS aTIV?

As you get older, your immune system gets weaker – aTIV is a flu vaccine that specifically helps to protect those aged 65 years and over. aTIV is one of the flu vaccines recommended as being suitable for you by the NHS for the 2020/2021 flu season.



DOES aTIV CAUSE ANY SIDE EFFECTS?

Like all vaccines, aTIV can cause side effects. Most reactions are mild or moderate and resolve spontaneously within 1 to 2 days.

VERY COMMON SIDE EFFECTS:

- muscle pain
- headache
- fatigue
- pain and/or tenderness at the injection site

COMMON SIDE EFFECTS:

- redness, swelling, bruising, hardness at or close to the injection site
- sweating
- nausea, diarrhoea, vomiting
- joint pain
- fever, generally feeling unwell, shivering

aTIV contains inactivated virus parts, which cannot cause the flu. Flu vaccines do not protect against the common cold, which has similar symptoms to the flu.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IN CASE OF ANY UNEXPECTED SIDE EFFECTS?

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at: yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

This leaflet should be read in conjunction with the Patient Information Leaflet (PIL) available at: www.medicines.org.uk/emc